Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Wildfires across South Dakota continue to threaten lives, homes, and communities; and,

Whereas, The number, size, and intensity of wildfires continually challenge firefighter's efforts to protect life and property while promoting forest health and creating resilient landscapes; and,

Whereas, With an increasing number of South Dakotans living in or near wildland urban interface areas vulnerable to wildfire, a growing number of homes are being threatened by wildfire each year; and,

Whereas, Instituting safe and early evacuation plans, increasing a home's resistance to wildfire, and creating fire adapted communities can dramatically increase the safety and survivability of the public and emergency personnel; and,

Whereas, Wildfire suppression costs represent only a small portion of overall economic impacts and do not reflect the total cost of catastrophic fires; and,

Whereas, All South Dakotans who live, work, and recreate in our state have the responsibility to recognize the high risk of wildfire and take every precaution to protect themselves, their property, and our natural resources; and,

Whereas, Wildfire Awareness Month is an important opportunity for South Dakota's communities and fire service agencies to reduce the risk of wildfire, increase firefighter safety, and enhance public safety and awareness through education on fire safety, preparation, and prevention:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2016 as

WILDFIRE AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State